



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

March 2022

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit

Part I Total Crime

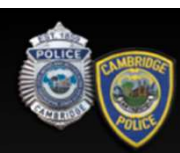
An analysis of serious crime statistics for the first quarter of 2022 indicates a balanced decrease of 8% in the Part One index total for Cambridge when compared with 2021. Through March 28th of this year, there were 507 serious crimes reported in the City. For the same time period in 2021, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 549 incidents, 42 more than this year. When measured against the five-year average, a slight 3% increase in the crime index has been registered.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first three months of 2022 indicates that violent crimes remained unchanged over the first 12 weeks of the year when compared with 2021, with 63 crimes counted in each year. Property crime slipped downward 9% with 42 fewer crimes reported when compared with the first quarter of 2021. There were zero homicides, 6 rapes, 23 robberies and 34 aggravated assaults reported over the first three months of 2022.

The 52% decrease in larcenies of bicycles, the 43% dive in thefts from residences and the 29% slip in aggravated assaults when compared with the first three months of 2021 are the key trend indicators observed so far in 2022 that are driving the downward curve in the crime index. Meanwhile, overall robberies increased from 11 incidents to 23 crimes and housebreaks jumped from 28 reports to 51 incidents when comparing the first 12 weeks of 2022 with that of the same time frame last year.

When analyzing the serious crime totals of March of 2022 versus the previous month of February, there has been an increase of 11% in the number of index incidents with 18 additional crimes reported.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	2/1/22 - 2/28/22	3/1/22 - 3/28/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	21	21	0%	63	63	0%	59	7%
Total Property Crime	138	156	13%	486	444	-9%	433	3%
Total Part I Crime	159	177	11%	549	507	-8%	492	3%



Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first quarter of 2022 points to a 9% decline when measured against the 2021 totals and a 3% bump above the five-year average, with 42 fewer incidents below the total for the first 12 weeks of last year and 11 crimes above the 433 reports in the forecast.

Three of the major property crime categories recorded significant declines when measured against the first quarter of 2021, most notably a 52% reduction in larceny of bicycles, which was down 50 incidents from the high total of 96 bike thefts during the cold weather months that occurred at the start of last year. Larceny from residence also registered a sharp drop of 43% for the first three months of the year.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	2/1/22 - 2/28/22	3/1/22 - 3/28/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	22	24	9%	44	61	39%	46	33%
Commercial Break	3	6	100%	16	10	-38%	11	-9%
Housebreak	19	18	-5%	28	51	82%	34	50%
Larceny	107	128	20%	426	360	-15%	371	-3%
Larceny (Misc)	2	9	350%	9	20	122%	7	186%
Larceny from Building	19	17	-11%	28	50	79%	54	-7%
Larceny from MV	25	27	8%	111	98	-12%	69	42%
Larceny from Person	4	10	150%	15	19	27%	24	-21%
Larceny from Residence	23	17	-26%	115	65	-43%	81	-20%
Larceny of Bicycle	13	21	62%	96	46	-52%	57	-19%
Larceny of Plate	2	1	-50%	4	5	25%	3	67%
Larceny of Services	0	1	IN-CALC	1	3	200%	3	0%
Shoplifting	19	25	32%	47	54	15%	74	-27%
Auto Theft	9	4	-56%	16	23	44%	17	35%
Total Property Crime	138	156	13%	486	444	-9%	433	3%



Part I Violent Crime

From January 1st to March 28th of 2022, there were 63 violent crimes recorded in Cambridge, the same total as the first quarter in 2021, and four additional violent crimes (+7%) above the 59 incidents forecasted for the first three months of the year.

There were six rapes reported in Cambridge during the first three months of 2022, while there were three reported during the first quarter of the year in 2021. The trend observed during Covid of a high percentage of aggravated assaults occurring in the 500 to 600 block of Mass Ave in Central Square continued in 2022 with 12 of the 34 citywide reports occurring in this area. The street robbery total has climbed from seven incidents over the first three months of 2021 to 20 (+186%) through March 28th of 2022. This total is 13 incidents above the forecasted total of seven street robberies for the first quarter.

The last murder in Cambridge took place on March 27th, 2021. In that incident, a fatal shooting occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	2/1/22 - 2/28/22	3/1/22 - 3/28/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	1	0	IN-CALC	1	-100%
Rape	1	3	200%	3	6	100%	5	20%
Robbery	9	6	-33%	11	23	109%	12	92%
Commercial Robbery	2	0	-100%	4	3	-25%	5	-40%
Street Robbery	7	6	-14%	7	20	186%	7	186%
Aggravated Assault	11	12	9%	48	34	-29%	42	-19%
Total Violent Crime	21	21	0%	63	63	0%	59	7%



MURDER

No Patterns

- On Saturday 3/27/21, there was a fatal shooting that occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing.
- On April 23, 2020, Jose Bermudez was arrested for the fatal daylight stabbing of 33-year-old Danilo Perez in Central Square on April 14. Bermudez and Perez were both part of the homeless community and were known to each other. Bermudez is being held without bail. This was the first homicide reported in Cambridge since January of 2019 and it ended up being the only homicide recorded in 2020.
- There was one murder in Cambridge in 2019. The Middlesex DA's Office and the Cambridge Police are asking for public assistance regarding the ongoing investigation into the fatal incident that occurred in the New Street area of Danehy Park around 6:30PM on the night of January 2nd, 2019. This incident is being investigated as a homicide. The preliminary investigation suggests that the victim, 60-year-old Paul Wilson, died as a result of blunt force trauma and that robbery does not appear to have been the motive.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

In-Cal

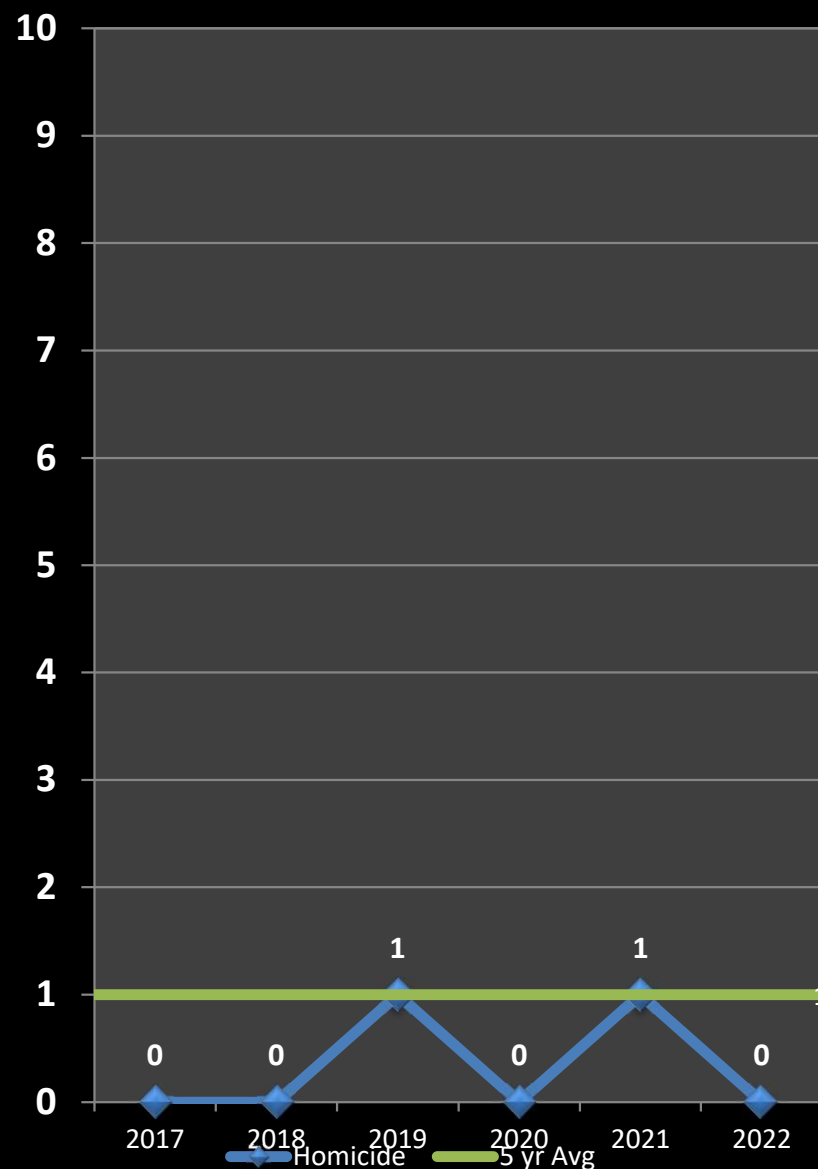
Previous Year

0%

5-Year Average

0%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.



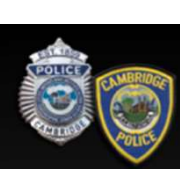


Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge

For the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989, the City of Cambridge averaged slightly less than five murders per year. The annual average since 1990 has fallen to approximately two per year. Trend analysis over recent years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one family member is brutally killed by another in a homicidal rage, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

Cambridge Murder Statistics, 1990-2021

- 64 people murdered in 59 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 44 victims were male
- 20 victims were female
- Most common weapons: handguns (30 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 20 of the 59 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 27 of the 38 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect.



RAPE

No Patterns

- There were six rapes reported in Cambridge during the first quarter of 2022, while there were three incidents reported through March 28th in 2021. The six rapes so far in 2022 have been categorized as one acquaintance incident, three blitz scenarios, a domestic incident and a contact assault. One of the blitz incidents did result in an arrest.
- Final counts indicate that there were 36 rapes reported in 2021, nine more than were reported in 2020. That total was also nine incidents above the five-year average of 27 crimes.
- The sexual assaults in 2021 were classified as 11 domestic situations, 17 involving acquaintances as the predator, five contact incidents, and three blitz scenarios that remain under investigation.
- The total number of reported rapes tends to fluctuate from year to year, but the number of stranger-to-stranger rapes reported each year in Cambridge—between one and five—remains extremely low.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

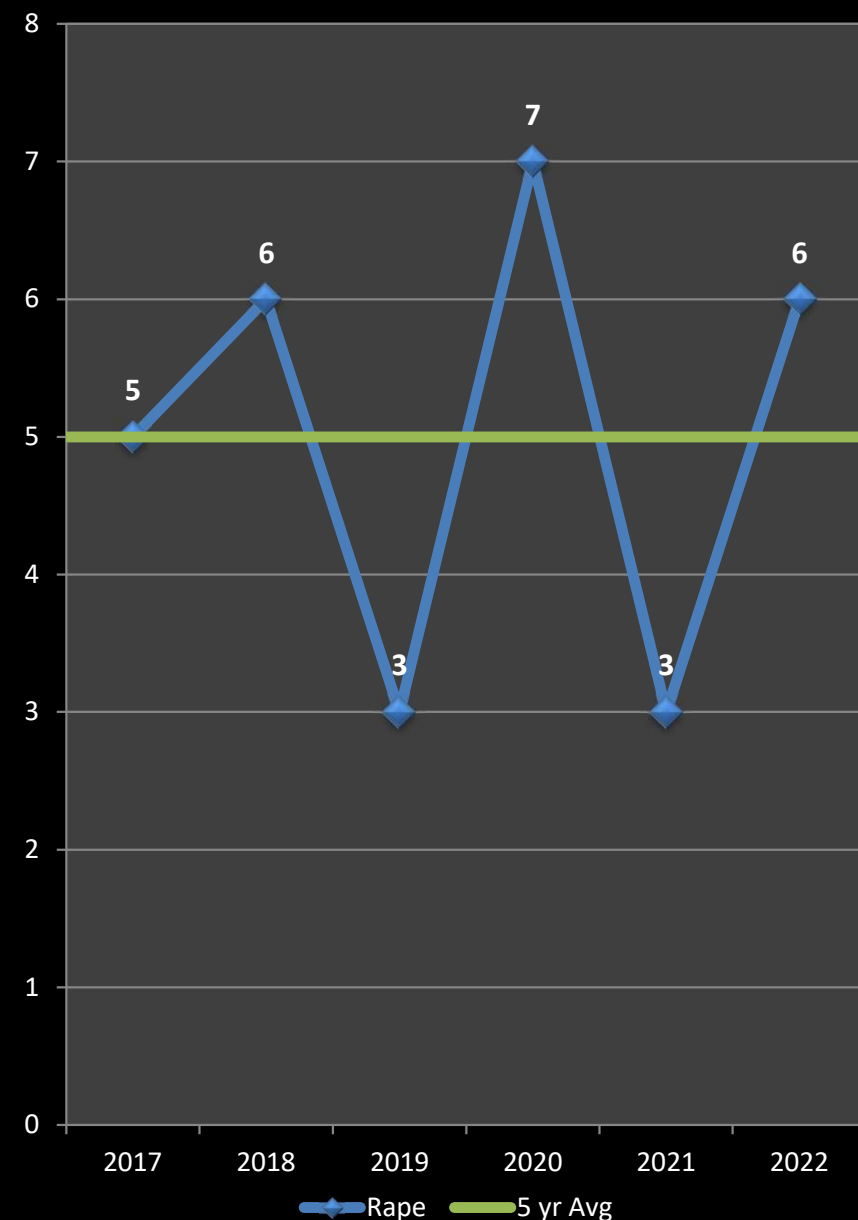
5-Year Average

+200%

+100%

+20%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.



AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- The total of 34 aggravated assaults reported through March 28th of 2022 was 14 crimes (-29%) under the total for the first quarter of 2021, as well as eight incidents (-19%) below the forecast for the five-year average of 42 crimes.
- The 34 aggravated assaults reported over the first three months of this year were composed of the following classifications: 5 unprovoked scenarios; 5 domestic altercations; 4 assaults between unhoused individuals; 4 juvenile-related assaults; 3 psychotic episodes; 3 shop owner/patron assaults; 2 road rage; 2 assaults on police officers; 2 affray; 2 drug deals that went awry; 1 landlord/ neighbor assault and 1 assault between acquaintances.
- The trend observed during the Covid period of a high percentage of aggravated assaults occurring in and around the periphery of Central Square has continued in 2022 with 12 of the 34 citywide reports in this area.
- There have been four confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through March 28, 2022, none of which resulted in gunshot wounds. Through the same time period in 2021, there were two shots fired incidents and two shootings with injuries reported in Cambridge (including the last recorded homicide). See map on slide 10 for more info.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

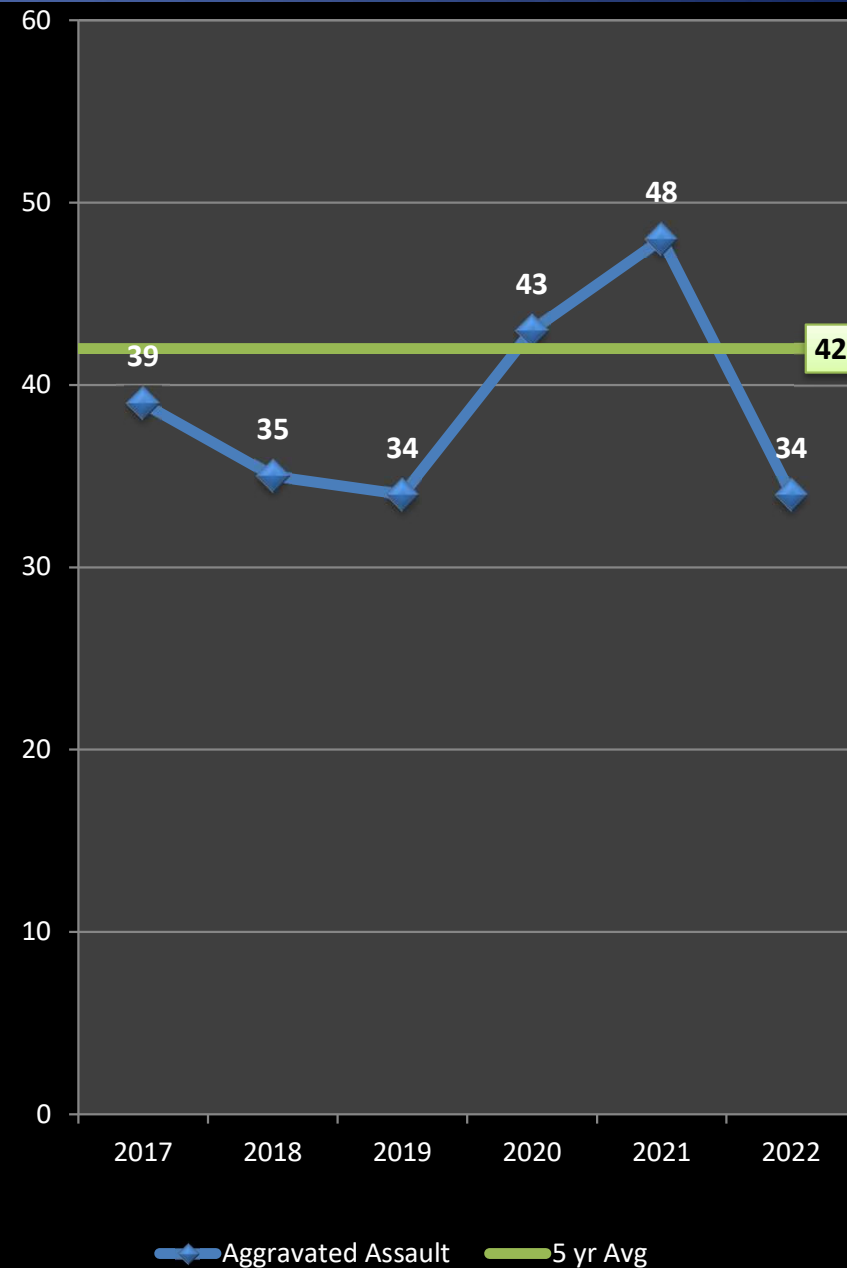
+9%

Previous Year

-29%

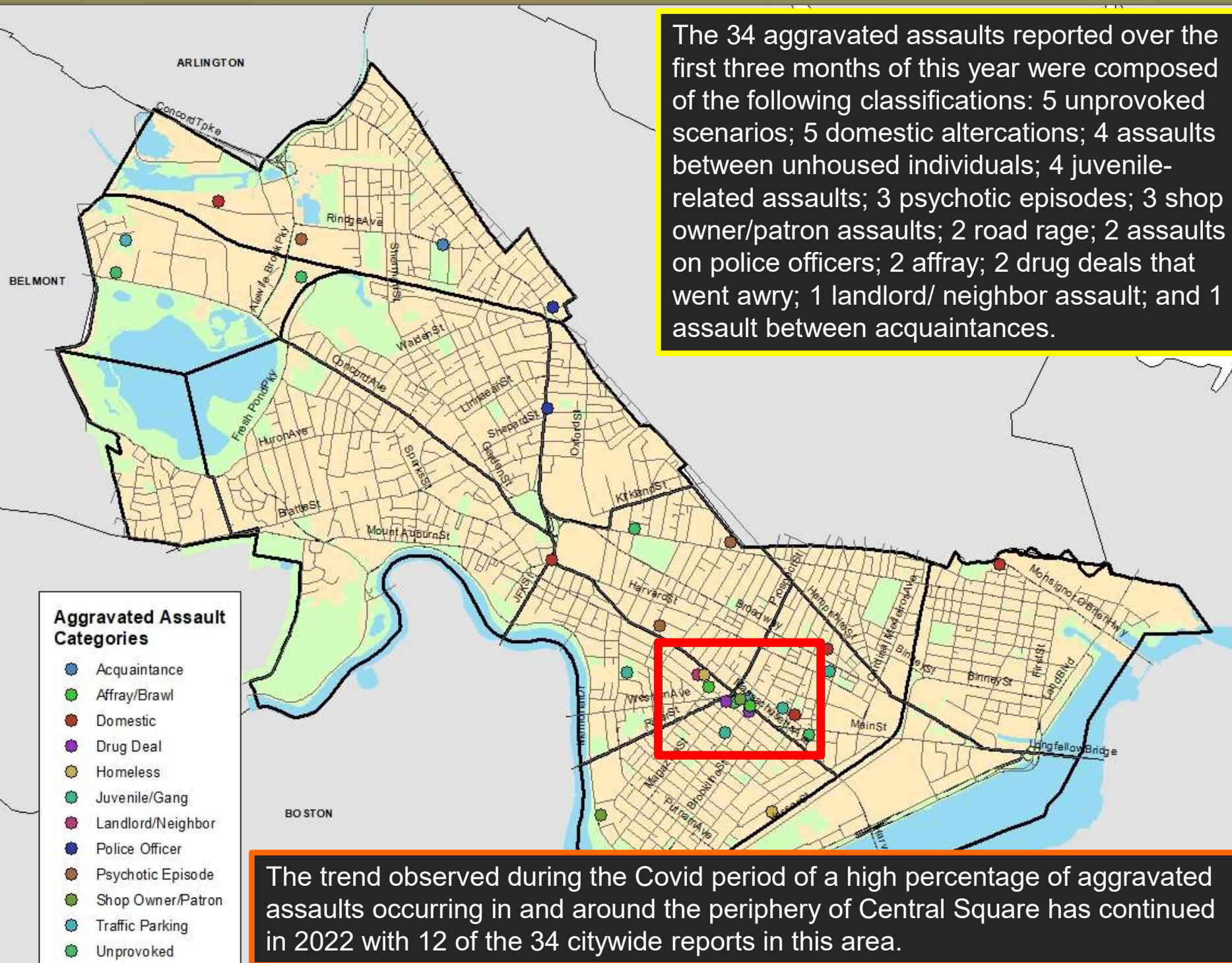
5-Year Average

-19%

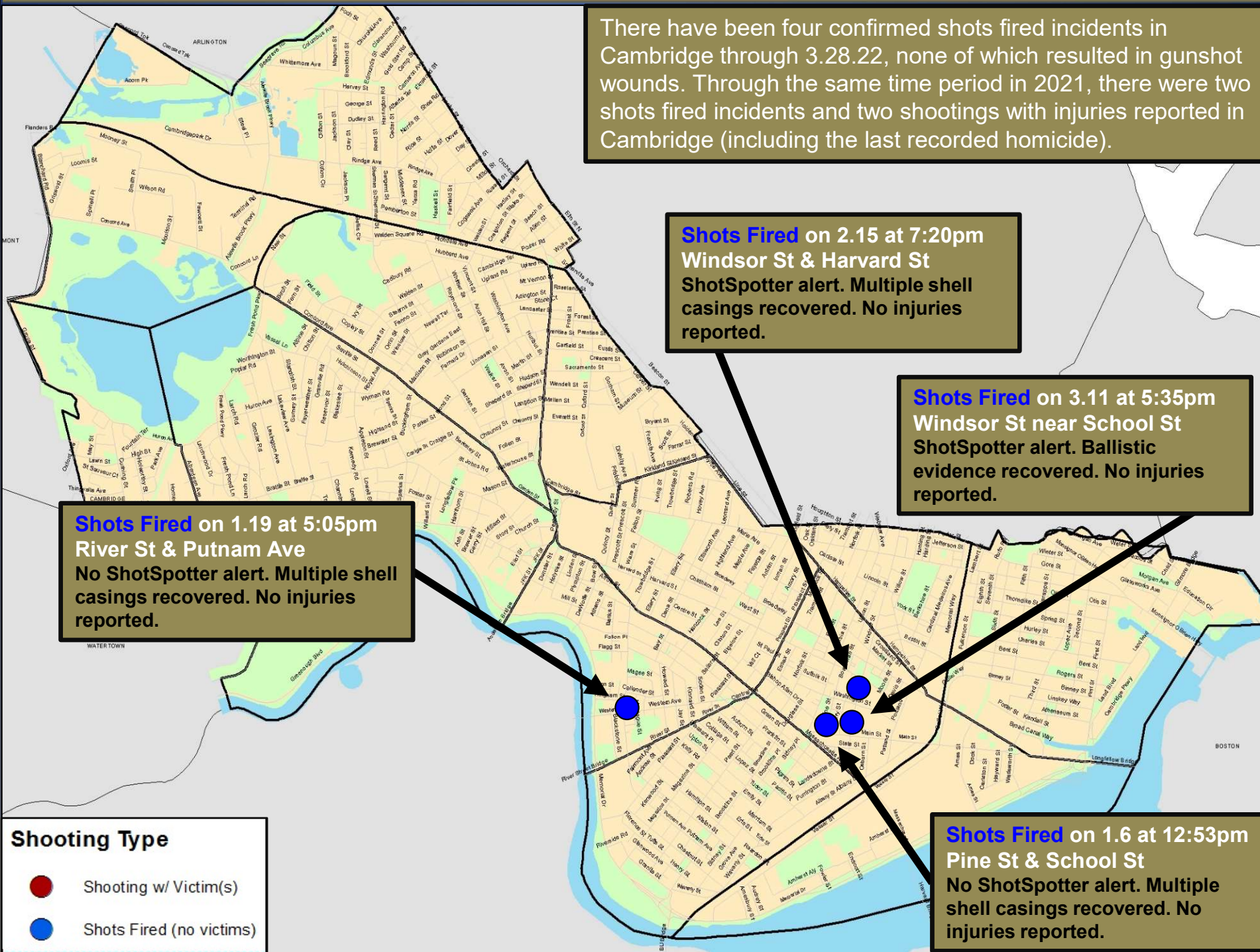




Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



Confirmed Shots Fired and Shootings in Cambridge: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



There have been four confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through 3.28.22, none of which resulted in gunshot wounds. Through the same time period in 2021, there were two shots fired incidents and two shootings with injuries reported in Cambridge (including the last recorded homicide).

Shots Fired on 2.15 at 7:20pm
Windsor St & Harvard St
 ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 3.11 at 5:35pm
Windsor St near School St
 ShotSpotter alert. Ballistic evidence recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 1.19 at 5:05pm
River St & Putnam Ave
 No ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 1.6 at 12:53pm
Pine St & School St
 No ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

Shooting Type

- Shooting w/ Victim(s)
- Shots Fired (no victims)



Robbery

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first quarter of the year is 12 incidents. Through March 28th of 2022, 23 robberies were recorded, which translates to a 92% increase above the projected total and a 109% spike above the 11 robberies counted for the first three months of 2021.
- There have been three commercial robberies committed in Cambridge over the first 12 weeks of this year, down one incident from the first quarter of 2021. These incidents include: two crimes at a Memorial Drive gas station – one with an implied handgun, the other a strongarm rifling of the register – and a shoplifting at the CambridgeSide Shopping Center that escalated into a robbery when the assailant threatened the clerk with a bat.
- The street robbery total has climbed from seven incidents over the first three months of last year to 20 (+186%) through March 28th of 2022. This total is 13 incidents above the forecasted total of seven street robberies for the first quarter. Nine of these street robberies have been concentrated in and around the periphery of Central Square, continuing a trend that emerged over the last few months of 2021.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

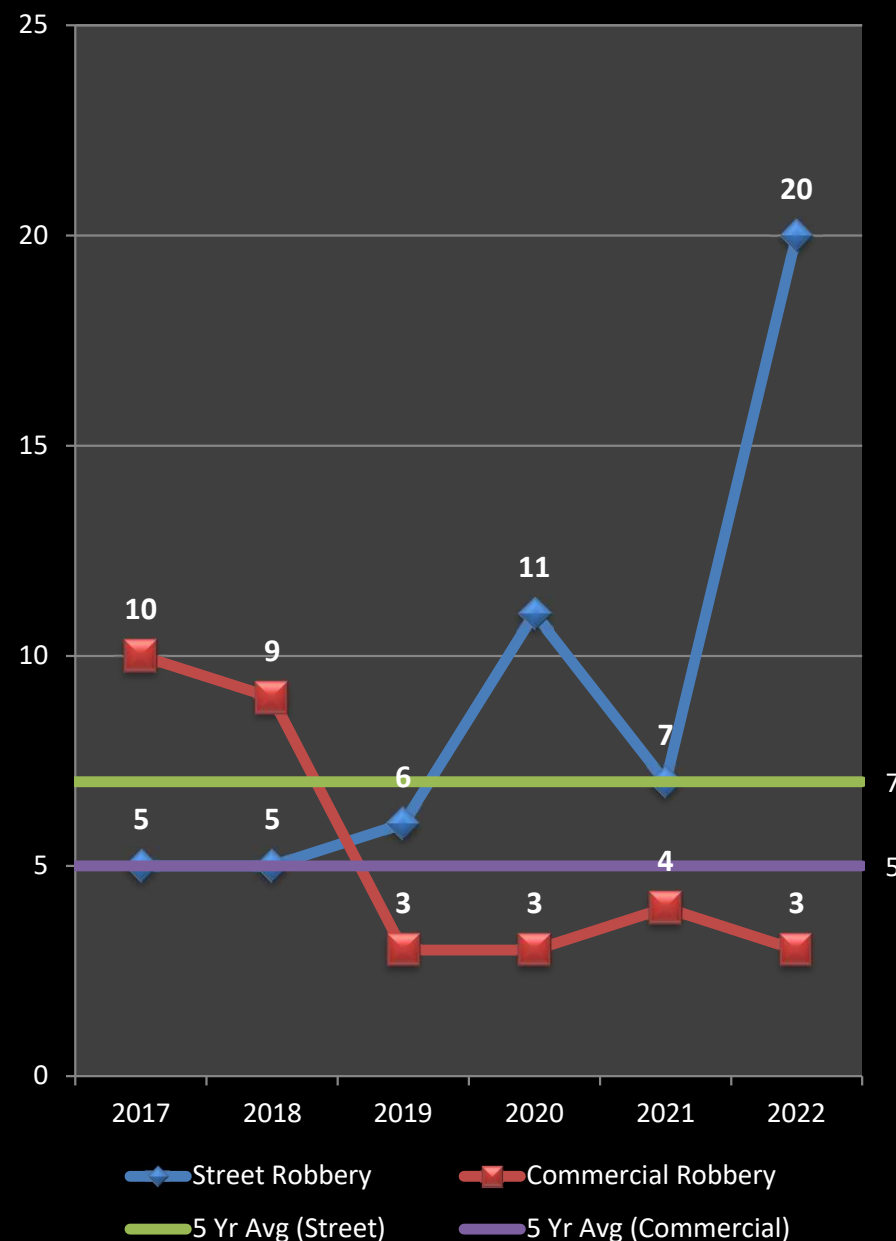
-33%

Previous Year

+109%

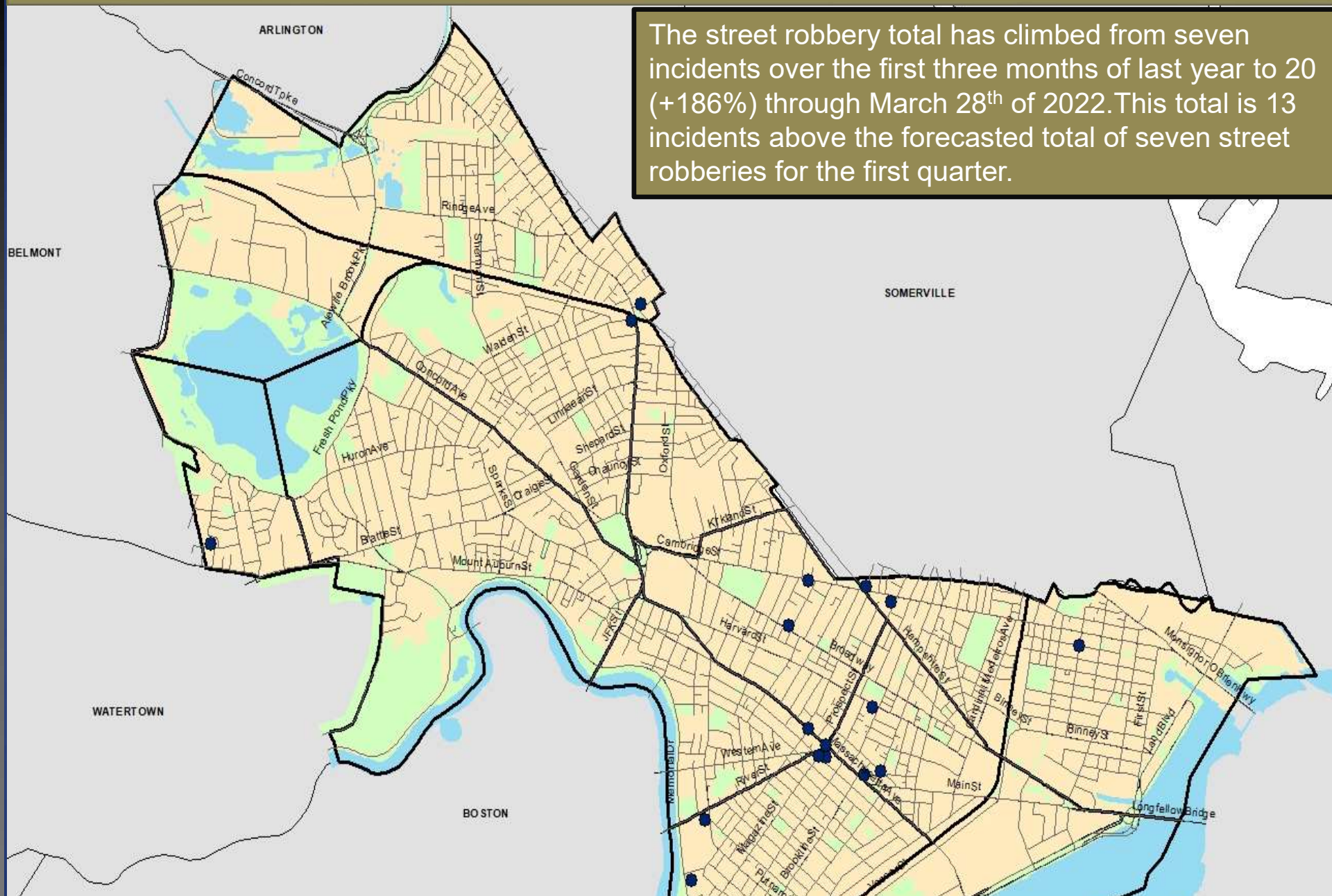
5-Year Average

+92%





Geographic Breakdown of Street Robbery: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



Central Square has seen the highest concentration of activity in 2022 with 9 of the 20 street robberies having taken place in this business district. The circumstances around the robberies runs the gamut from unhoused parties targeting one another, to a carjacking, to an ATM robbery.

Burglary

No Patterns

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has recorded a substantial increase of 33% over the first three months of 2022 when compared to the five-year average, with 15 additional incidents reported above the projected total of 46 breaks. When compared with last year's low total of 44 incidents through March 28th, a 39% increase has been registered (up 17 incidents in 2022).
- Housebreaks through March 28th in 2022 have risen 82% over the first quarter of 2021, with 51 incidents reported this year compared to the 28 recorded over the first 12 weeks of 2021. There was a minimal decrease in housebreaks from February to March of this year with one fewer incident reported. Currently, there are no active housebreak patterns in the City.
- There have been ten commercial breaks reported in the first three months of 2022, with six occurring in March. However, this is still registering a decrease of 38% below last year's total of 16 breaks during the same time period.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

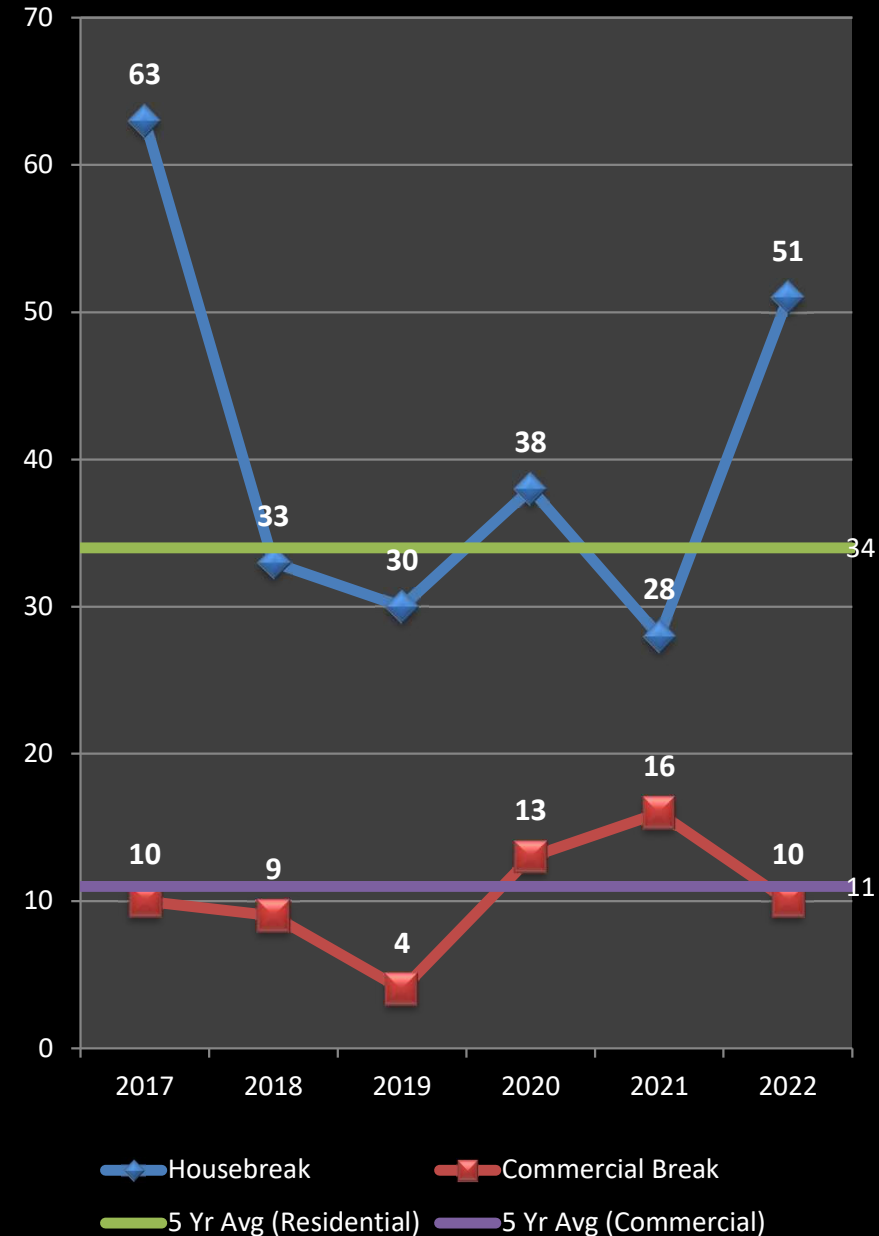
+9%

Previous Year

+39%

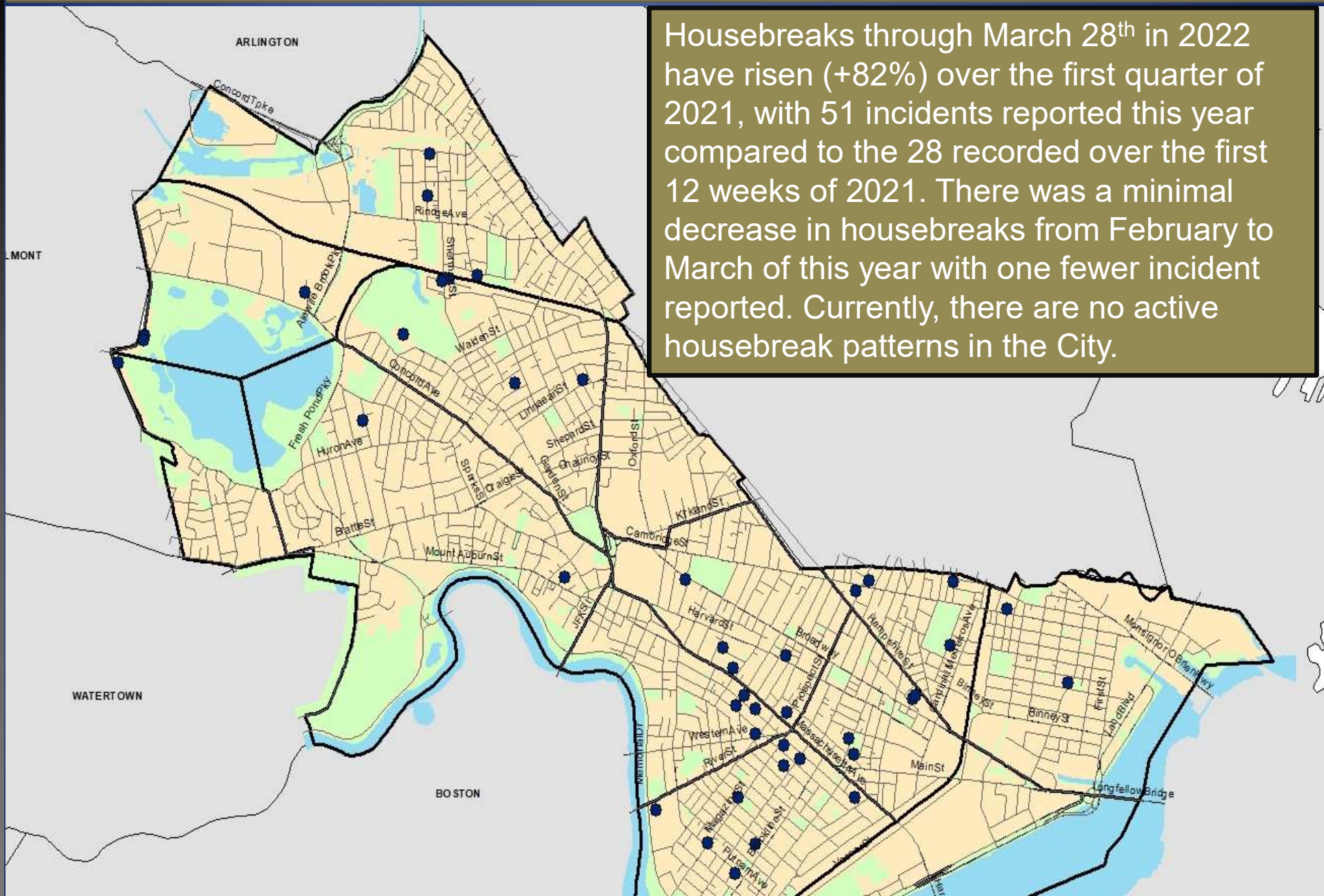
5-Year Average

+33%





Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



The 82% increase in housebreaks during the first quarter has been fueled by eight of the 51 incidents occurring in two apartment buildings, one in The Port, the other in Cambridgeport. Another residence in Inman/Harrington has also had an uptick in activity with multiple different crimes reported, three of which were housebreaks.



LARCENY

Sporadic Pattern

- **Preliminary stats indicate that overall larceny in 2022 is registering at 360 incidents, 15% below the same time frame in 2021.** The total of 360 larcenies reported year-to-date in 2022 is also 3% below the 5-year average of 371 incidents.
- **The larceny from motor vehicles total through 3/28 in 2022 is 98 incidents, 12% below the same time frame in 2021.** The 98 thefts reported represent an increase of 29 incidents (+42%) above the number forecasted for 2022. Much of this upsurge can be attributed to the continuing trend of catalytic converter thefts that was seen in January and February.
- **Through March 28, 2022, there were 19 larcenies from the person reported in Cambridge, up four incidents (27%) when compared to the same time period in 2021.** The 2022 total is down 21% from the 5-year average of 24, likely due to lingering effects from the pandemic. Central Sq has seen the most activity this year with 8 incidents.
- **There were 50 larcenies from buildings reported through the first three months of 2022.** This total is 79% (22 incidents) above the same time frame in 2021 and is 4 incidents (7%) below the 5-year average. With gyms and public buildings reopening to the public in 2022, it is expected that there will be an increase in this activity when compared to the past two years.
- **Larcenies from residences are down 50 incidents (43%) in 2022 when compared with 2021.** Package thefts made up the majority of this crime in recent years and registered even higher than average in 2020 and 2021, likely due to the increased volume of deliveries during the pandemic. Package thefts have accounted for 41 (or 63%) of the 65 larcenies from residences thus far in 2022.
- **Larceny of bicycles will likely end up being one of the major property crimes in 2022, similar to recent years. However, currently there have only been 46 bike thefts reported in 2022, which is 52% less than the same time frame in 2021.** Bike thefts are also down 19% (11 thefts) below the five-year average. Much of this decrease is likely due to the colder and snowier weather in 2022.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

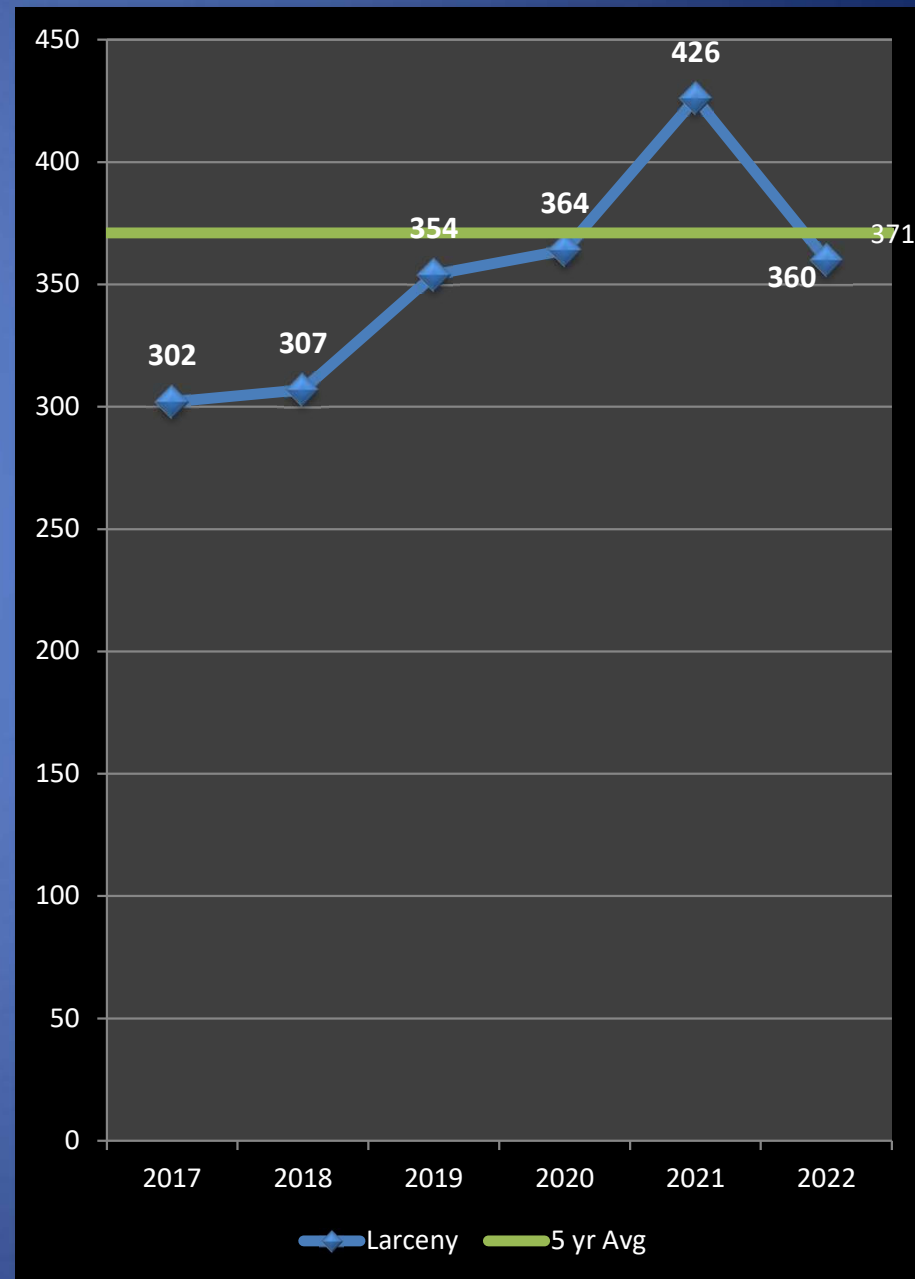
+20%

Previous Year

-15%

5-Year Average

-3%





LARCENY From MV

Sporadic Pattern

- The larceny from motor vehicle total through March 28th, 2022, is 98 incidents, which is 12% below the total for the same time period in 2021. The 98 thefts from cars reported thus far in 2022 indicates an increase of 29 incidents (+42%) above the number forecasted through the first 12 weeks of 2022.
- The neighborhoods with the highest larceny from motor vehicle totals so far in 2022 are: North Cambridge (24), Mid Cambridge (18), and Peabody (11). There have been no incidents reported in the Highlands and MIT neighborhoods so far this year.
- Catalytic converter thefts became a problem in Cambridge when a series of thefts were reported by residents primarily in the Cambridgeport neighborhood in January of 2021. Surges continued sporadically throughout the year with the pattern resurfacing over the final two months of 2021, with 25 additional thefts reported in Riverside, North Cambridge, Peabody, and West Cambridge. In 2022, catalytic converter thefts have continued with an additional 33 incidents reported. The majority of the catalytic converter thefts in Cambridge have involved 2004-2009 Toyota Priuses, along with a few Honda Elements and CR-Vs. See the map on the next slide for a visual interpretation.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

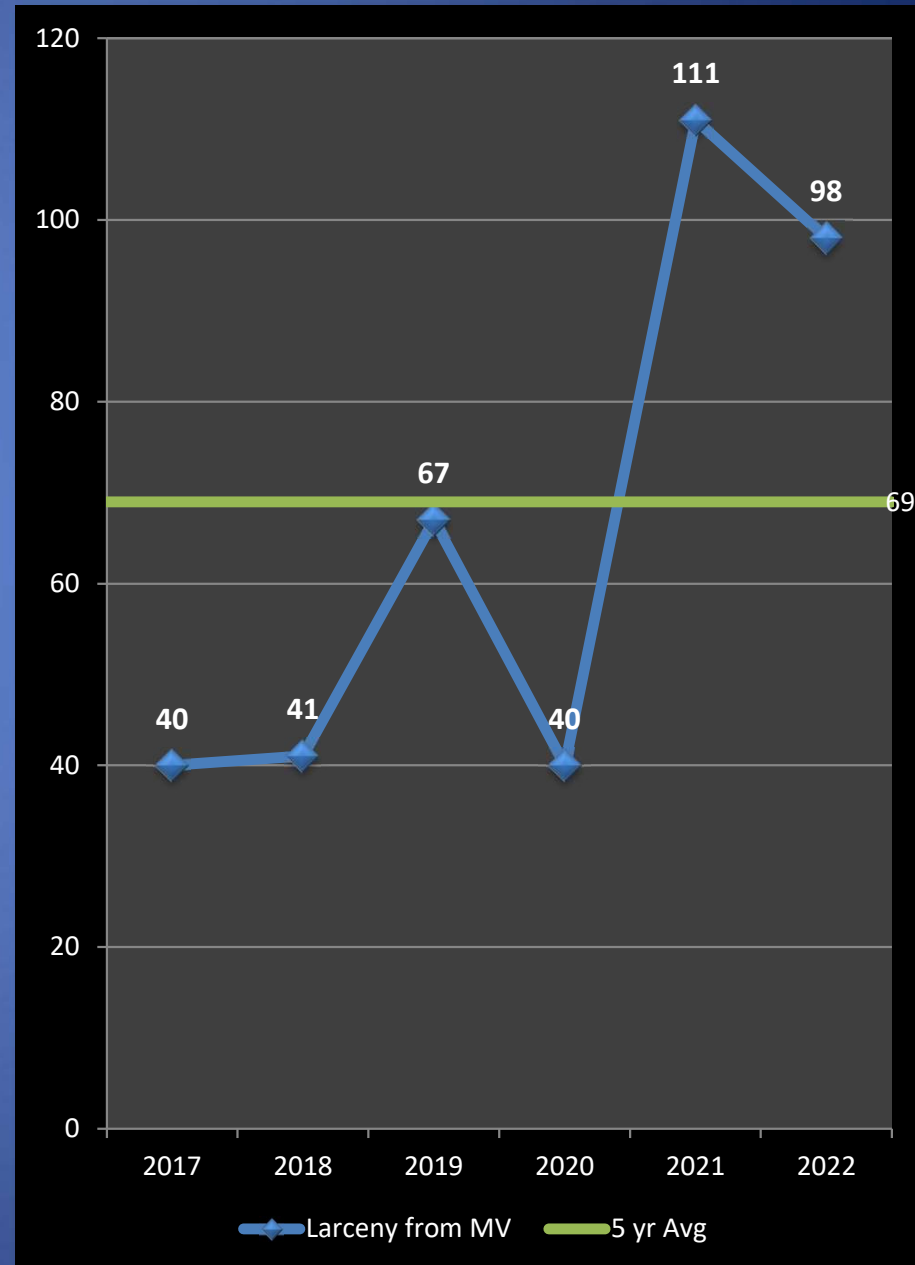
+8%

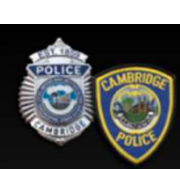
Previous Year

-12%

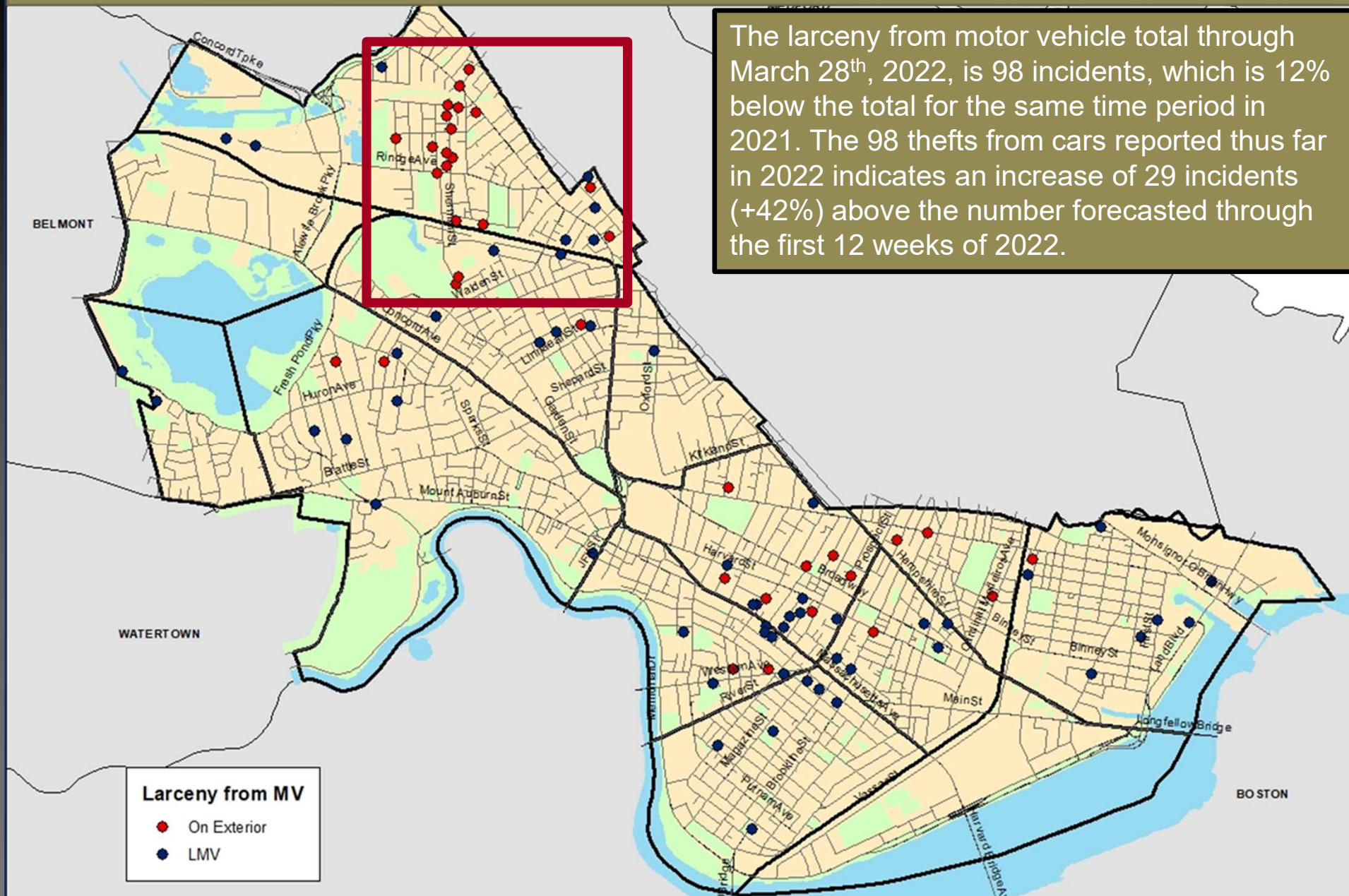
5-Year Average

+42%





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Motor Vehicles: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



Catalytic converter thefts became a problem in Cambridge in January of 2021. Surges continued sporadically throughout the year with the pattern resurfacing over the final two months of 2021, with 25 additional thefts reported. In 2022, an additional 33 catalytic converter thefts have been reported with a large concentration in N. Cambridge and Mid-Cambridge.



LARCENY *from Person*

No Patterns

- Larcenies from the person in 2022 have increased by four incidents compared to the same time period in 2021 and dropped by five incidents when compared to the five-year average of 24. Activity picked up in the past month, as March saw a 150% increase over February with six more incidents reported, for a total of 10 thefts in March.
- Eight of the 19 incidents this year have taken place in Central Square. Until March, there had not been a larceny from the person reported at all in Harvard Square. However, this area experienced four reported thefts in March. The others took place in Porter Square (3), and Alewife, Bay Square, Cambridgeport and Kendall Square, with one each. The numbers citywide have been trending upward as COVID-related closures and restrictions have been lifted and people are out and about again.
- In recent years, higher numbers in Central Sq have mainly been due to grab-and-run situations or incidents that involved individuals who are unhoused whose property may have been stolen while they were asleep or otherwise distracted.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

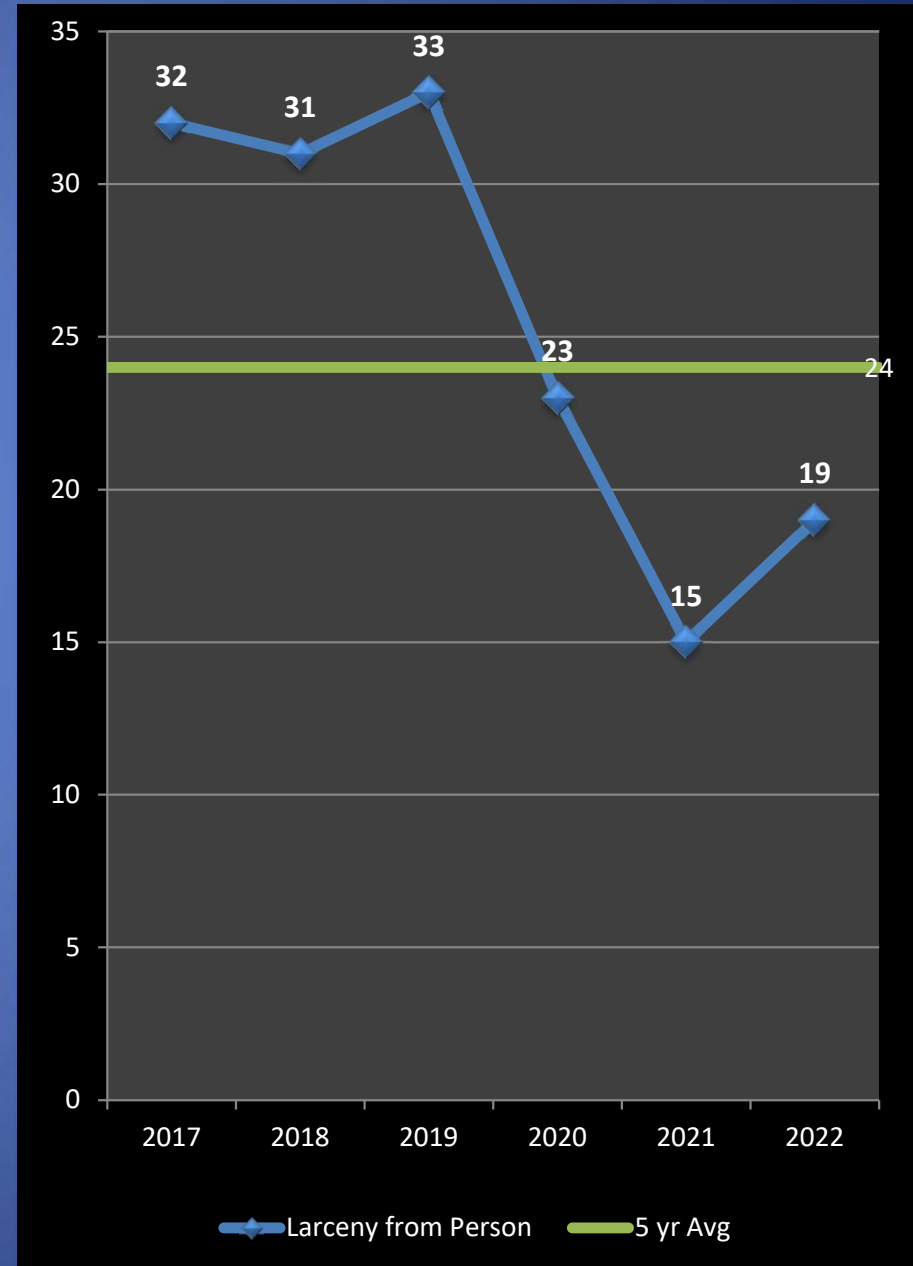
+150%

Previous Year

+27%

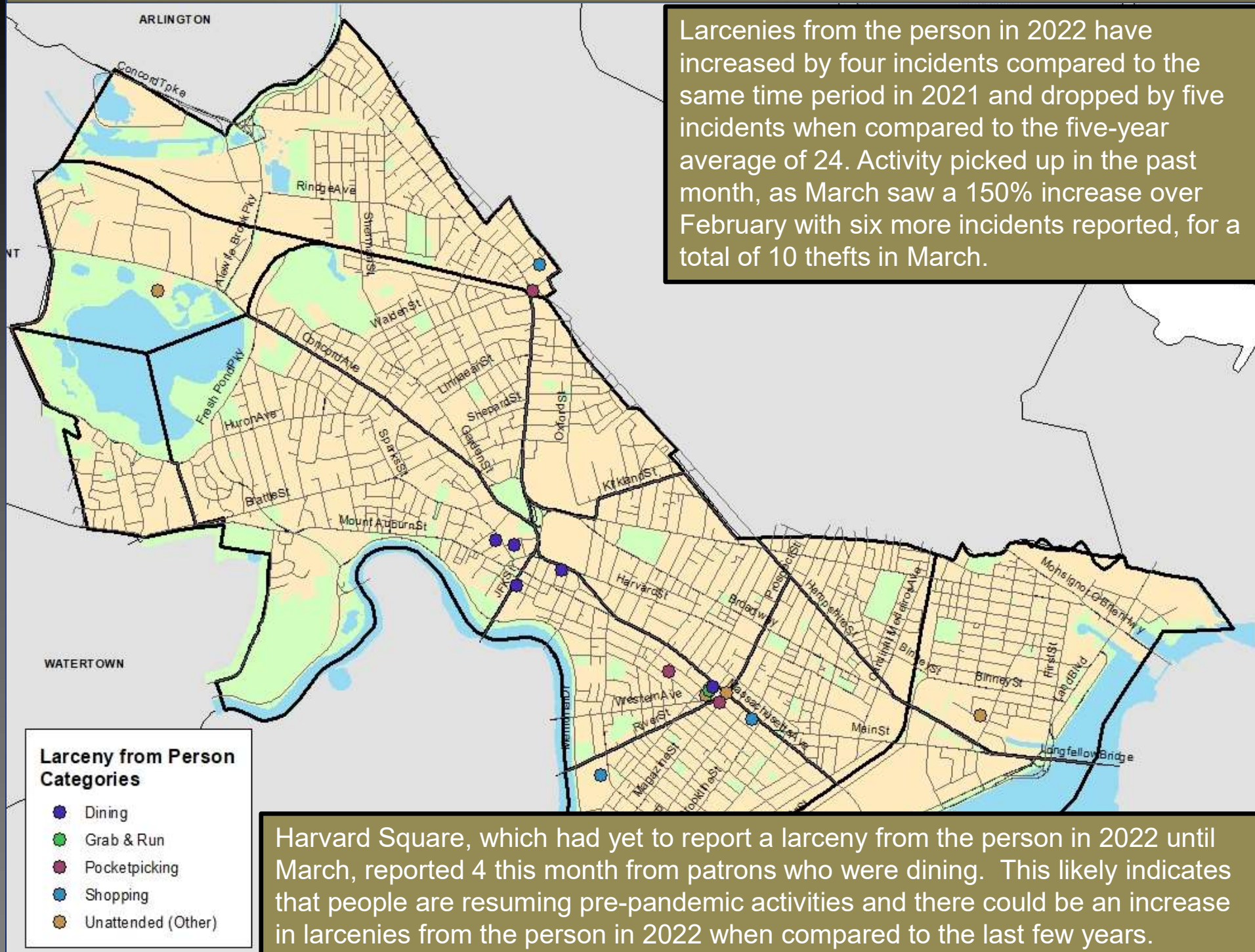
5-Year Average

-21%





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Person: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22



LARCENY of Bicycle

No Patterns

- Likely due at least in part to the colder weather and snow this year, 2022 has started off with a sharp decline in bike thefts. Only 46 thefts have been reported through March 28th, 2022, leading to a significant 52% decrease below last year and a 19% decline below the 5-year average.
- March was up eight incidents over February (+62%) with 21 thefts reported. This increase by month is expected to continue as the weather gradually improves.
- Unlike last year when nearly two-thirds of the bike thefts were reported in the lower half of the city, just under 60% (or 27 of the 46) thefts reported so far in 2022 have occurred north/west of Harvard Square.
- Of the 46 bike thefts reported year-to-date in 2022, 39 (85%) were reportedly locked at the time of the theft.

Top Neighborhoods for Bike Theft in 2022

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Peabody	10	22%
North Cambridge	9	20%
Cambridgeport	5	11%
Baldwin	4	9%
The Port	4	9%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

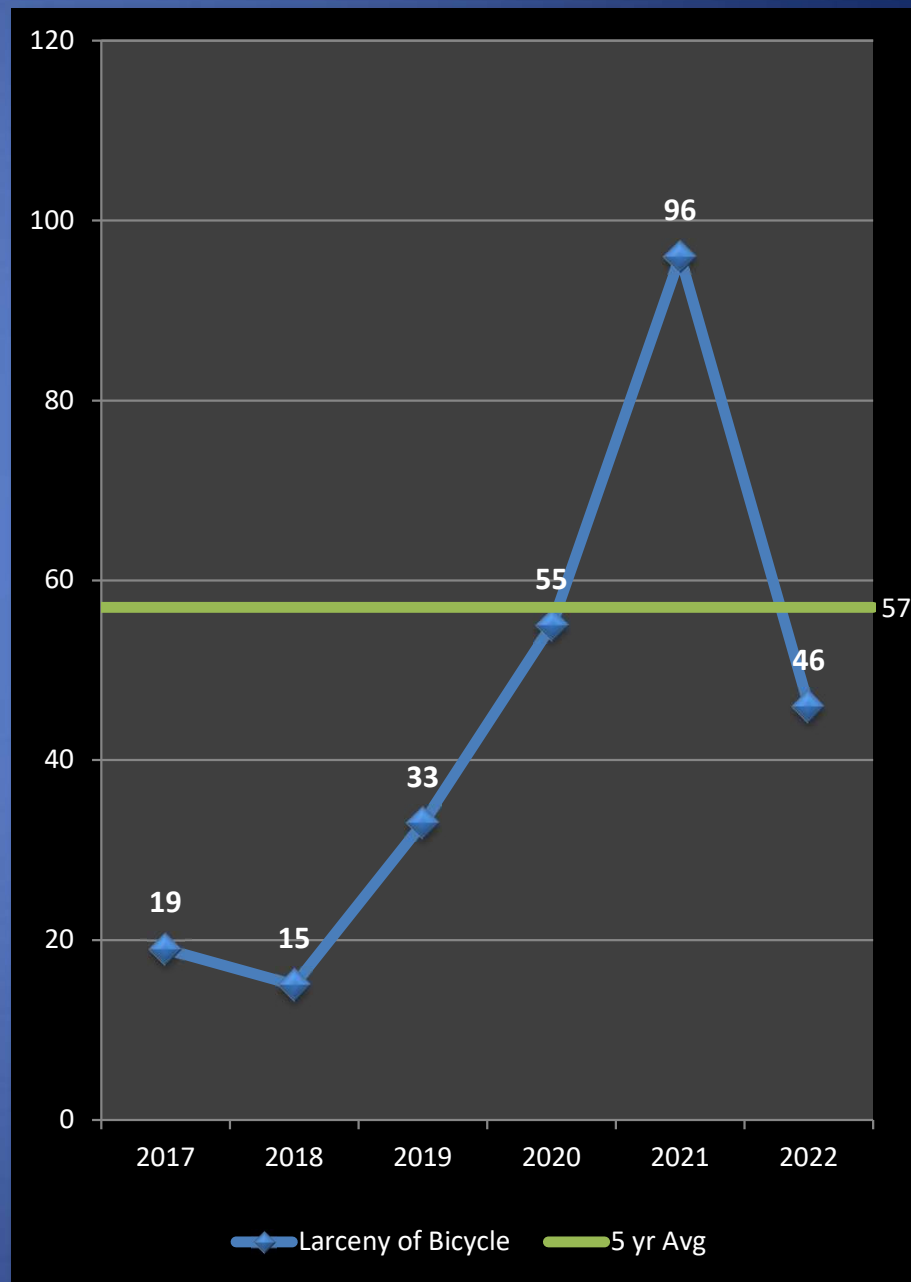
+62%

Previous Year

-52%

5-Year Average

-19%

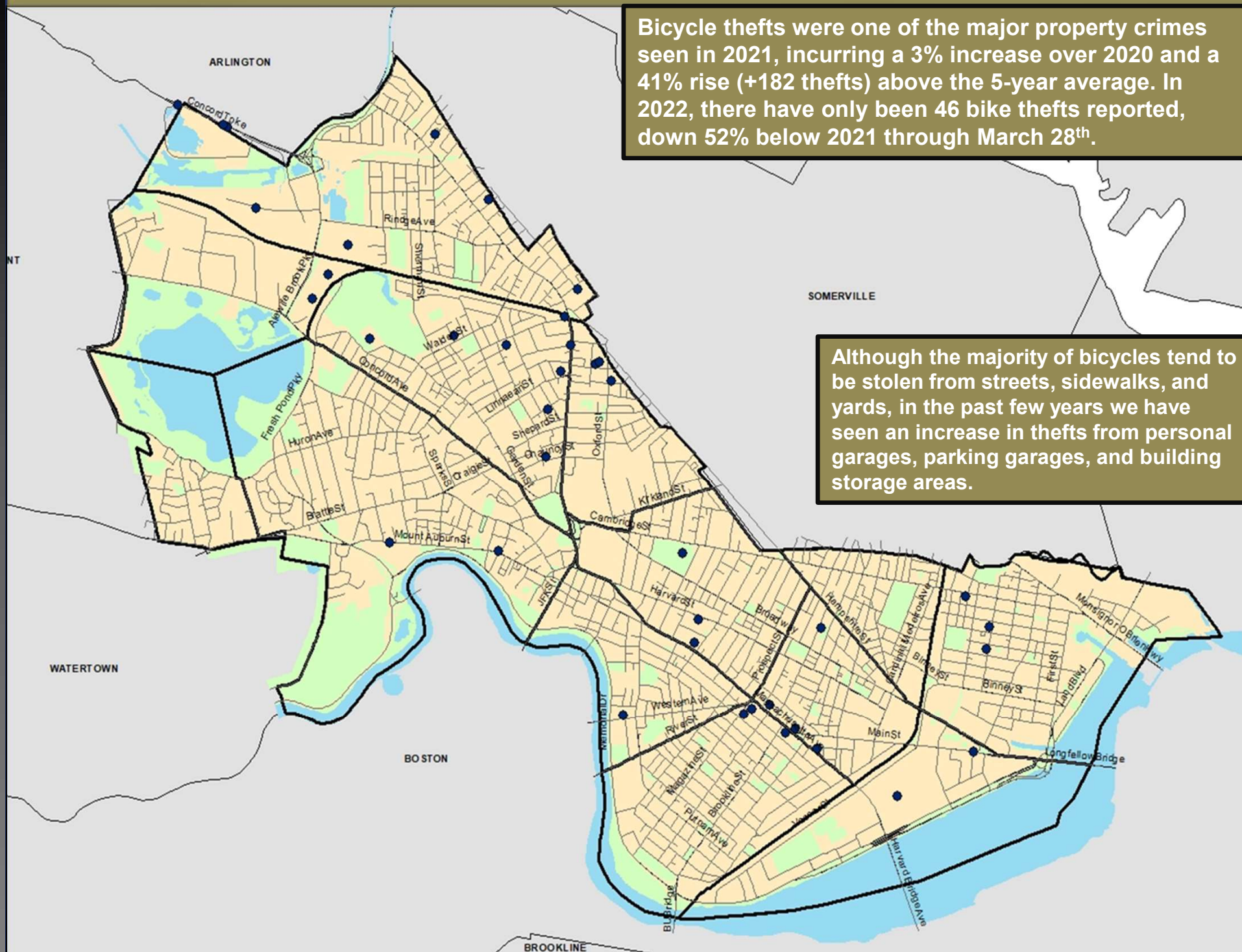




Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bicycles: 1.1.22 – 3.28.22

Bicycle thefts were one of the major property crimes seen in 2021, incurring a 3% increase over 2020 and a 41% rise (+182 thefts) above the 5-year average. In 2022, there have only been 46 bike thefts reported, down 52% below 2021 through March 28th.

Although the majority of bicycles tend to be stolen from streets, sidewalks, and yards, in the past few years we have seen an increase in thefts from personal garages, parking garages, and building storage areas.





AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts through March 28th of 2022 is 17, and with 23 reported in 2022, we have experienced an increase of 35% over the expected total thus far this year. Auto thefts in 2022 are also up 44% over last year, with seven additional incidents reported.
- When comparing the most recent four weeks (March) to the previous four weeks (February), auto thefts have decreased by 5, with only 4 reported in March.
- This year, there have been multiple thefts reported where the operator left the vehicle unlocked and running in order to deliver a package or grab food. When the victim returned, the vehicle was gone. Two juveniles were arrested in February, believed to be responsible for at least two such thefts out of Harvard Square.
- The neighborhood breakdown for auto theft totals thus far in 2022 is as follows: The Port – 5, Riverside – 4, East Cambridge, West Cambridge and Cambridgeport – 3 each, North Cambridge – 2, and Inman/Harrington, Mid-Cambridge, and Peabody each with 1.
- Six of the 23 vehicles reported stolen in 2022 have been recovered to date.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

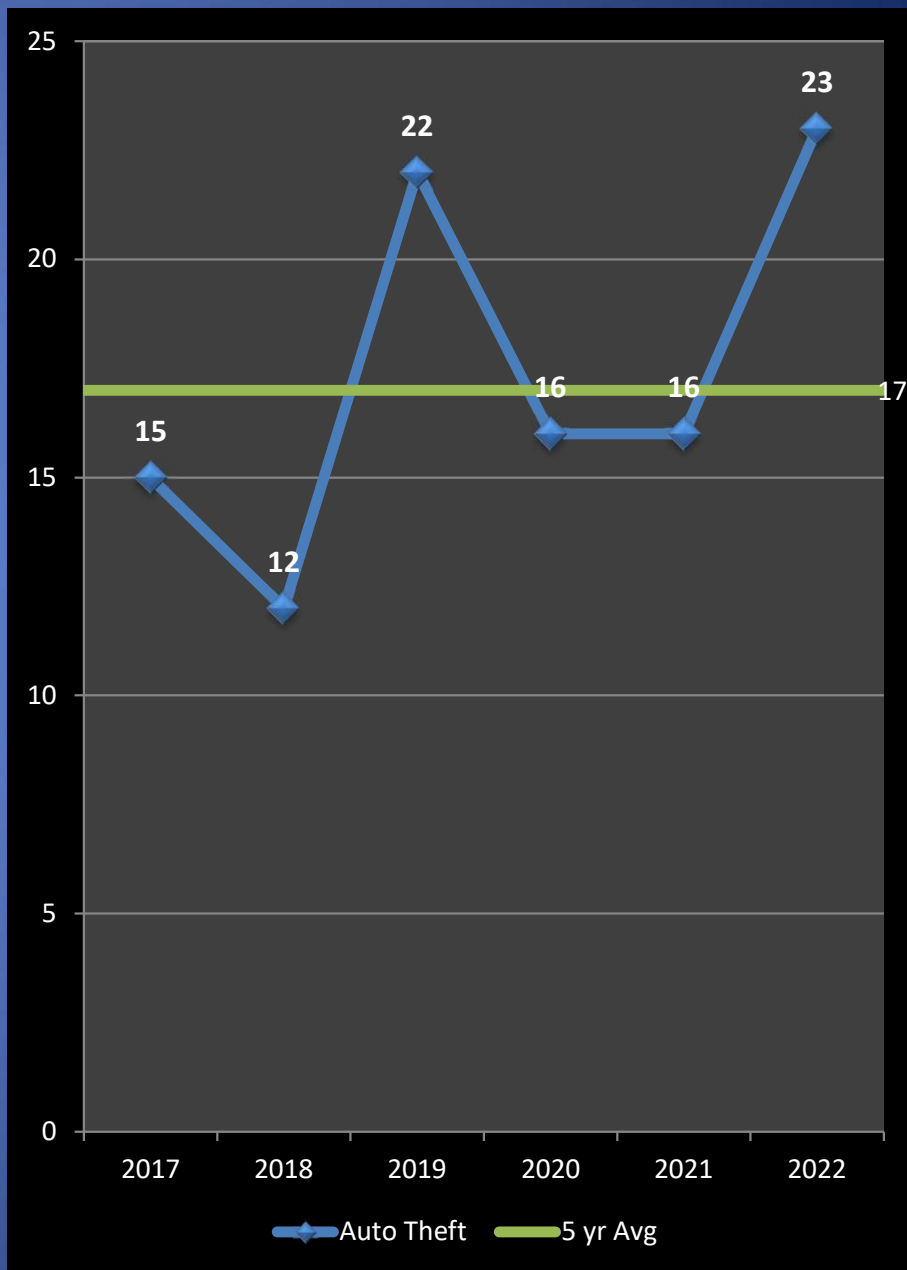
-56%

Previous Year

+44%

5-Year Average

+35%





Help Prevent Crime

And keep yourself informed!

To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the **Cambridge Alert Network**, to receive alerts about emerging crime patterns, neighborhood meetings, and crime prevention tips, by visiting www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our “MyPD” smartphone app at www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD.

To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at **617-349-3300**.
 - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
 - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to **Tip411 (847411)**. Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. **If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.**
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips